

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
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TO SECSSTATE WASHDC 1429
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12443

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT PINS SWEL SHUM UR
SUBJECT: ARREST OF FELIKS SEREBROV - MOSCOW PSYCHIATRIC WATCH
COMMITTEE

REFS: (A) STATE 203758, (B) MOSCOW 11919

1. ACCORDING TO HIS WIFE, SEREBROV WAS ARRESTED MONDAY, AUGUST 22 FOLLOWING KGB SEARCH OF HIS APARTMENT AND CONFISCATION OF SEVERAL PAPERS INCLUDING MISCELLANEOUS DISSIDENT POETRY. ONE OF FOUR MEMBERS OF THE MOSCOW PSYCHIATRIC WATCH COMMITTEE, SEREBROV WAS ALLEGEDLY ARRESTED FOR IRREGULARITIES IN HIS CITIZENSHIP PAPERS.

2. SEREBROV'S WIFE SAYS HE WAS FIRST ARRESTED IN 1947 AND SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IN JAIL FOR STEALING SOME SALT. IN 1954 HE WAS RELEASED FROM JAIL IN POOR HEALTH AND TRANSFERRED TO AN UNNAMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN SIBERIA. IN 1958 HE WAS RELEASED FROM THE SEMINARY AND GIVEN AN INCOMPLETE SET OF DOCUMENTS WHICH, FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON DID NOT MENTION HIS PRISON TERM. IT IS THESE INCOMPLETE 1958 PAPERS, WHICH ARE NOW, ACCORDING TO THE AUTHORITIES, THE BASIS FOR HIS ARREST.

3. COMMENT: WE SPECULATE THAT SEREBROV'S ARREST IS
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RELATED TO HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE MOSCOW PSYCHIATRIC WATCH COMMITTEE. IN AN AUGUST 24 MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY SAKHAROV, WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS WERE TOLD THAT A LENGTHY DOCUMENT CALLING ATTENTION TO ABUSES OF PSYCHIATRY IN THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTEE TO THE SIXTH WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY WHICH OPENS IN HONOLULU ON AUGUST 29. IT MAY BE THAT

THE KGB FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT AND DECIDED TO
CRACK DOWN ON ITS AUTHORS. WE WILL WATCH FOR FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS, E.G. ARREST OF ANY OF THE THREE REMAINING
MEMBERS OF THE PSYCHIATRIC WATCH COMMITTEE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: DETENTION, ARRESTS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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